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97. B. 52

CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO

D I A R I E S.



February 1860. No. 375.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 31 May 1860; for,—

“ COPIES of all CORRESPONDENCE during the present Year, on the Subject of
DIARIES, between the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART and the various
SCIENTIFIC BODIES in the UNITED KINGDOM connected with that De-
partment.”

— 1. —

Sir,

17 March 1860.

I AM directed by the Committee of Council on Education to transmit for your information a copy of a Minute passed by their Lordships on the 15th instant, together with copies of the diaries therein referred to, in the form in which they have been prepared at South Kensington; and I am to request you to be good enough to cause similar diaries to be adopted, with any necessary modifications, in the institution under your charge.

The system is to begin on and after the 1st of April.

Sir R. I. Murchison, G.C.S.S.,
Museum of Practical Geology,
Jermyn-street.

I have, &c.
(signed) Henry Cole.

A similar letter was addressed to Sir Robert Kane, Museum of Irish Industry.

— 2. —

Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education.

By the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council on Education.

At South Kensington, 15 March 1860.

MY Lords consider that it is expedient that diaries should be kept by the officers in the several institutions connected with the Science and Art Department, of the time employed by them in the public service, and of the nature of their duties.

My Lords accordingly desire that the head officer in each institution will cause the officers of his establishment to keep diaries of their work, and return them monthly.

Such diaries are to be kept in duplicate, and one copy is to be sent to the Secretary of the Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

— 3. —

(1.)

February 1860. No. 375.

Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, South Kensington.

Form of Diary for Inspectors in use at South Kensington.

Diary of

for the week ending

186

	Arrival.	Departure.
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		

Proposed duty for the following week.

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

This form, filled up, is to be sent to the Secretary every Monday.

(2.)

April 1860. No. 378.

Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, South Kensington.

Form of Diary in use at South Kensington.

Diary of

for the week ending

186

	Arrival.	Departure.	No. of Hours.
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			
Saturday			

[I hereby certify that I have examined this Diary, and believe it to be correct.*]

* This is omitted in the Diaries of chief officers.

This form, filled up, is to be sent to the Secretary every Monday.

— 4. —

Geological Survey Office, 28, Jermyn-street, S. W.,
28 March 1860.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 17th March, enclosing a copy of a minute passed by the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education, and requesting me to cause certain diaries to be adopted in this establishment, with any necessary modifications in reference to the institution under my charge, I beg you will lay the accompanying letter before their Lordships.

I have, &c.

H. Cole, Esq., C. B.,
&c. &c.

(signed) *Rod. I. Murchison.*

— 5. —

Geological Survey Office, 28, Jermyn-street, S. W.,
28 March 1860.

My Lords,

In reference to the minute of your Lordships, dated 15th March, in which the head officer of the several institutions connected with the Science and Art Department is desired to cause certain diaries to be kept by the officers of this establishment, and to send in monthly one copy to the Secretary of the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, I have to express my regret that the course of action hitherto adopted by the Committee of Council on Education and former Ministers towards my predecessor and myself should for the first time have been changed.

The internal management of the Geological Survey, the School of Mines and its Museum, has hitherto been entrusted to the Director General, and any alterations therein have been carried into effect only after consultation between the Minister of the Crown and myself.

In fact, the peculiar nature of the duties performed by our officers renders it difficult for any one, who is unacquainted with the sciences involved, to judge of the beneficial effect or otherwise of the rules to be applied.

I venture, therefore, to hope that your Lordships will not consider the present case in the light of a precedent, which, if followed out, would deprive me of the authority necessary for the effective fulfilment of the duties for which I am held responsible.

After an attentive and respectful consideration of the subject, and consultation with the professors and local directors, who are responsible to me for the management of the various departments of this institution, I have but to express my conviction, that the forms which have been prepared at South Kensington, and which are, I doubt not, very valuable for the various inspectors, &c., are not capable of being turned to practical account here.

Many of the officers of this institution are professors, whose sole engagement with the Government is to deliver a course of lectures; others, as, for instance, the local directors and field surveyors, have their hours of official labour determined by weather and other contingencies, while the actual results of their work are really registered in the maps and other publications of the survey.

But in order to comply, as far as possible, with the spirit of your desire, I have determined that those officers of this institution who are in London, and have other than professional duties, shall "record the time employed by them in the public service" in proper arrival and departure books, which I shall be happy at any time to submit to your Lordships' inspection.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Rod. I. Murchison.*

The Lords of the Committee of Council
on Education.

— 6. —

Science and Art Department
of the Committee of Council on Education,
South Kensington, London, W.,

12 May 1860.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education to inform you that they have given their best consideration to your letter of the 28th March, and to the personal explanations of yourself, Professor Jukes, and Professor Huxley, on the subject of official diaries.

My Lords are aware that no diary can adequately represent the performance of duties zealously carried out, especially those of the highest class, and consider that its principal use in these cases is, that it affords a good example and encouragement to the subordinate officers. It has also the very obvious use of recording what portion of a day's attendance has been given to the public service, where the disposal of his time is absolutely intrusted to the officer's own sense of honour.

Diaries appear to my Lords to be indispensable in services such as geological surveying, where the officer not only is not obliged to attend at a public office, but is entirely the master of his own actions for several days together. The hours of official labour in such duties are, as you point out, determined by weather and other contingencies; and for this very reason it appears to their Lordships that it would be right, in every point of view, that such officers should keep a diary, recording when and why they are prevented from performing their official duty.

My Lords do not consider that diaries are necessary in the case of professors, whose sole engagement is to deliver a course of lectures, or in cases where specific work is undertaken to be performed for a specific price, and within a specified time.

My Lords regret that they cannot agree with you in the opinion that the proposed diaries would deprive you of the authority necessary for the effective fulfilment of the duties for which you are held responsible; on the contrary, they conceive that such diaries would rather strengthen your authority, and encourage a proper sense of responsibility in the officers subject to your administration.

They therefore request that you will have the kindness to cause them to be prepared and kept, in accordance with the general minute, a copy of which has been sent to you.

I have, &c.

Sir R. I. Murchison,
Museum of Economic Geology,
Jermyn-street.

(signed) *N. Macleod*,
Assistant Secretary.

— 7. —

Department of Science and Art,
Museum of Irish Industry, Stephen's Green, Dublin,
12 April 1860.

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th ult., enclosing copy of minute of my Lords, regarding diaries, and also copies of forms prepared at South Kensington, and requesting similar diaries to be adopted, with any necessary modification, in this institution.

I beg leave to state, that, having communicated the minute and forms to the professors and officers here, it appears to be the general opinion that such diaries are not intended to apply to the professors or scientific officers, whose performance of duty can scarcely be measured by the number of hours of bodily attendance; and I have been requested to bring the subject in this point of view under the consideration of my Lords.

I have also been informed that, as similar difficulty has been felt in the museum in Jermyn-street by the scientific officers and professors, and as the preparation of diaries had been suspended there for the present, it would appear desirable to have the circumstances of the professors and officers of the two similar institutions considered by the authorities of the department at the same time.

In

In accordance, therefore, with what I find to be the wish of the professors and officers of the museum, I shall have the honour of submitting their views more fully as soon as possible, and in the meantime I beg to forward enclosed the diaries for last week as prepared for the museum porters, and certified by the resident officer, which I trust will be found satisfactory.

Henry Cole, Esq. c. B.,
Secretary,
Science and Art Department, London.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Robert Kane*,
Director.

— 8. —

Department of Science and Art,
Museum of Irish Industry, Stephen's Green, Dublin,
16 April 1860.

Sir,
I AM directed by Sir R. Kane to forward to you herewith the diaries prepared for the porters of this museum for the week ending the 14th instant.

H. Cole, Esq., c. B. I am, &c.
(signed) *George Penny*.

— 9. —

Science and Art Department
of the Committee of Council on Education,
South Kensington, London, W.,
21 April 1860.

Sir,
I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Penny's letter of the 16th instant, enclosing the diaries prepared for the porters of the Museum of Irish Industry.

In reply, I am to state, for your information, that for the future it will not be necessary for the weekly diaries of the porters to be sent to this department.

Sir R. Kane, I am, &c.
Museum of Irish Industry, (signed) *Norman Macleod*,
Dublin. Assistant Secretary.

— 10. —

Science and Art Department
of the Committee of Council on Education,
South Kensington, London, W.,
12 May 1860.

Sir,
I AM directed by the Committee of Council on Education to inform you that your letter of the 12th April on the subject of official diaries has received their best consideration.

My Lords are aware that no diary can adequately represent the performance of duties zealously carried out, especially those of the highest class, and consider that the principal use in these cases is, that it affords a good example and encouragement to the subordinate officers. It has also the very obvious use of recording what portion of a day's attendance has been given to the public service where the disposal of his time is absolutely intrusted to the officer's own sense of honour.

My Lords do not consider that diaries are necessary in the case of professors, whose sole engagement is to deliver a course of lectures, or in cases where specific work is undertaken to be performed for a specific price and within a specified time; but in the case of other officers, my Lords desire that the director will cause diaries to be kept in accordance with the general minute.

Sir R. Kane, F.R.S.,
Museum of Irish Industry,
Dublin.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Norman Macleod*,
Assistant Secretary.

— 11. —

Department of Science and Art,
Museum of Irish Industry, Stephen's Green, Dublin,
23 May 1860.

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, conveying the instructions of my Lords with regard to the diaries ordered to be kept by the officers of this institution, and I beg to state that, in accordance with those instructions, arrangements are being made for having the diaries required kept by the several officers from 1st June next, which shall be forwarded monthly.

N. Macleod, Esq.,
Assistant Secretary,
Department of Science and Art.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Robert Kane*.

— 12. —

Science and Art Department
of the Committee of Council on Education,
South Kensington, London, W.,
20 March 1860.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Committee of Council on Education to transmit, for your information, a copy of a minute passed by their Lordships on the 15th instant, together with copies of the diaries therein referred to in the form in which they have been prepared for use at South Kensington; and I am to request you to be good enough to inform me if the Royal Dublin Society causes the paid officers of the society to keep any diaries, and, if not, if there is any objection to their being required to do so.

Dr. Steele,
Royal Dublin Society,
Dublin.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Cole*.

— 13. —

Royal Dublin Society, Kildare-street,
28 April 1860.

Sir,

I HAVE been directed to inform you that the Council of this Society have taken into their careful consideration your letter of the 20th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a minute of the Lords of the Committee of Council for Education relative to the keeping of diaries by the paid officers of the several institutions in connexion with the Science and Art Department, together with copies of the diaries therein referred to, and requesting to be informed "if the Royal Dublin Society causes the

DIARIES (SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT).

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the paid officers of the Society to keep any diaries, and, if not, if there be any objection to their being required to do so."

And I have been directed to state, in reply, for the information of their Lordships, "that it is not the custom of the paid officers of the Royal Dublin Society to keep diaries; and that the Council do not consider it necessary that they should do so, there being sufficient checks and guarantees for the efficient discharge of their officers' duties without requiring them to keep diaries, a course which appears to the Council open to many objections."

Henry Cole, C.B.,
Secretary,
Department of Science and Art,
S. Kensington.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. E. Steele*,
Assistant Secretary.

DIARIES.

COPIES of all CORRESPONDENCE during the present Year on the Subject of DIARIES, between the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART and the various SCIENTIFIC BODIES in the United Kingdom connected with that Department.

(Mr. Cogan.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
12 June 1860.

374.

Under 1 oz.

DIARIES (SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT).

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Henry Cole, C.B.,
Secretary,
Department of Science and Art,
2, Kensington.

I have, &c.
Wm. B. Steele,
Assistant Secretary.